

MINUTES

OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING AUGUST 5, 1980 - 7:00 P.M.

The regular County Council meeting was opened by Vice Chairman Ables with the invocation by Mr. Crain. Chairman Phinney and Councilman Frady were absent.

Motion by Mr. Crain, second by Dr. Earle and carried to approve minutes of the July 15th meeting as furnished.

Ordinance 80-11, "An Ordinance Providing for the Issuance and Sale of \$4,412,500 Sewer System Revenue Bonds of Oconee County" was passed on second Reading by a 3-0 vote. Motion by Mr. Ables second by Mr. Crain.

Ordinance 70-10, "An Ordinance Authorizing the use of certain Sentenced Prisoners for Litter Control", was passed on Third and Final Reading by a 3-0 vote. Motion by Mrs. Jennings, second by Dr. Earle.

The collection of municipal taxes by the County Treasurer's Office was discussed by Mr. Cater, Treasurer and Council Members. Currently the tax notices are costing the Municipalities 40¢ each, they have agreed to pay 41¢ to the County if their taxes are collected by the Treasurer. After discussion, Mrs. Jennings moved to approve contract agreements with the five towns to provide this service. Dr. Earle seconded the motion which passed by a 3-0 vote.

PRT Director Ben Sullivan, presented three grants pertaining to his department:

1. A grant from the Pepsi Cola Company (25¢ per case of drinks sold in Oconee County during the month of June) in the amount of \$1,016.91 has been donated to the PRT Commission to be used for capital expense. Council agreed to allow this amount be spent for this purpose from the contingency account, since the check will be deposited in the general fund. Motion by Dr. Earle, second by Mr. Crain - the vote 3-0.
2. The State PRT has offered a \$500 match to be used for tourism related brochures with the requirement that the County's \$500 be placed in a separate bank account. Council agreed not to establish this account but to write the State PRT Commission stating the County's share would be made available (this \$500 match would come from the current PRT budget). Motion by Dr. Earle, second by Mr. Crain- the vote 3-0.
3. A 100% reimburseable grant for materials for restoration of the Alexander-Hill House at High Falls Park is available in the amount of \$6,934. Mr. Sullivan has arranged with Mr. Hix to provide the labor through the CETA Program. Mr. Crain moved to front from the contingency account the \$6,934 for Phase II of the Alexander-Hill House restoration - second by Mrs. Jennings - The vote 3-0.

In old business, Mrs. Jennings reported the Law Enforcement Committee has accepted the Architects plans for the renovation at the Law Enforcement Center and bids will be received soon for this project.

Dr. Earle recommended the appointment of Mr. Hershall Sheriff from District # 5 to the Civil Defense Preparedness Commission - Mr. Crain seconded the motion - the vote 3-0.

Dr. Earle reported that he has received some of the completed CETA audits and the State Officials promised the others within 30 days after all responses have been received. This will be completed audits through 1977.

Mrs. Jennings reminded Council, and requested their attendance, at the State's Emergency Preparedness Division's Communications exercise to be held August 7th at 12:30. Headquarters for the alert will be the Seneca National Guard Armory and a station near the Duke Power Company. Mrs. Jennings also suggested that the Architects for the Brown Building renovation look at the old jail building to determine if it can be of use and if not consider tearing it down for a parking area.

Mr. Crain announced that he, Mr. Phinney and Mr. Lay would be meeting ~~in Columbia August 12th with Officials of the State Highway Department regarding the Walhalla Middle School Road.~~ He also stated a Representative of the Human Affairs Commission will meet with each individual responsible for hiring/firing of employees hoping to reach the goal for our Affirmative Action Plan.

Mr. Crain moved to recommend the Firm of Freeman, Wells and Major as the Architects for the renovation of the Brown Building. They were one of four firms interviewed for this project. Dr. Earle seconded the motion and the vote was 3-0. He further recommended the low bid (25¢ for shaping and \$1.25 for surface treatment) from Watkins Construction, Lavonia, Georgia be accepted for surface treating, second by Dr. Earle - The vote 3-0.

Council agreed to alternate the employee bonds with the three insurance companies who responded to the request to furnish blanket coverage. Since Rogers Insurance Company now has the bonds, the following schedule was agreed to effective September 1, 1980: First two years, Arve Herring Insurance Co., Second two years, Byrd McLellan Agency, and third two years Rogers Insurance Company. The blanket coverage will cover all employees except those required to be bonded by name such as elected officials, deputy sheriff's etc.

Dr. Earle moved, Mrs. Jennings seconded and it was agreed to go into executive session to discuss a legal matter.